



Environmental Education Programs for K-8th Grade Groups

To Schedule a Fieldtrip or Classroom Visit:
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Education Programs at Kenai Fjords National Park



Kenai Fjords National Park offers a landscape that few people in the world get to see without great effort. It is a place for students to see geological forces in action, climate change captured in glacial changes, succession in clearly defined steps and animal adaptations that allow for life in a sometimes harsh environment. We hope to see you and your students soon to share the wonders found in your own backyard.



Below you will find a list of the current offerings of our education staff. All programs are free to educational groups.

Home Sweet Home

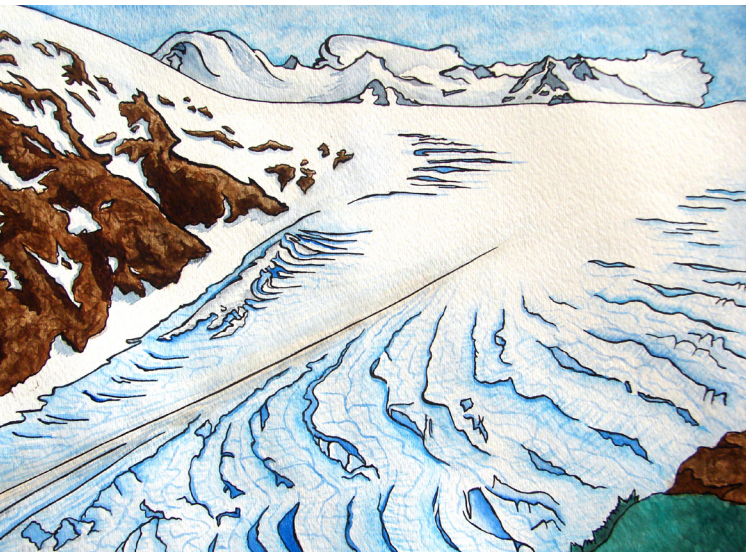
K-1st grade

This program is designed to be a first field trip experience for new students K-1st grade. A 2 ½-hour program in which students explore the Exit Glacier area, visiting Park Rangers at several stations to learn about how wildlife survive near and in a glacier. Hands on activities keep students engaged and informed about the place these creatures call home. **Fall - Exit Glacier**

Habitat is Where I'm At (Indoors)

1st-2nd grade

This program brings a park ranger to your classroom for a 30 minute visit. The ranger will read a story about Kenai Fjords National Park animals and help students understand what makes up a creature's habitat. **Fall- Classroom**



Habitat is Where I'm At (Outdoors)

1st-2nd grade

Students follow this visit with a trip to Kenai Fjords National Park and go on a 2 hour walk with a ranger to explore the habitat of animals that make their home near a glacier. Ultimately students will also answer the question "What is my habitat?"

Fall -Exit Glacier

What's in a National Park?

3rd - 5th grade

This classroom visit by a park ranger will introduce students to the concept of National Parks. From there they will look at the reasons why individual

parks were created and then examine the reason for Kenai Fjords National Park. Students will learn about the Harding Icefield and its connection to the park's glaciers. This program is designed as a precursor to the Glacier Tracks program.

Spring/Fall - Classroom

Glacier Tracks

3rd-5th grade

Students will spend 2.5 hours walking the trails at Exit Glacier. Earth science and the changes that glaciers have made on the land are the focus for this guided hike.

Spring/Fall - Exit Glacier





Glacial Detectives

3rd-5th

This is a classroom program that introduces students to the concept of glaciers and their impact on the land. Using photographs from Kenai Fjords National Park students will decipher clues to understand what glaciers leave behind. **Spring/Fall -Classroom**

Recess for Glaciers Success for Plants

5th grade

Students will explore the change in plant life from the outwash plain to the spruce/hemlock forests surrounding Exit Glacier. They will gain an understanding of the ongoing, dynamic process of succession and their own effects on a landscape in transition. **Fall - Exit Glacier**

Leave No Trace

1st - 6th grades

This program covers the seven leave no trace principles as introduced by the Peak program. Students will spend 2 hours on the Glacier View and paved trails at Exit Glacier exploring their impact on the ecosystem.

Spring/Summer - Exit Glacier

Finding Your Way in the World

6th grade

This program is a fun introduction to botany using GPS units to track down various plant species. A pre-visit program takes about 1.5 hours of classroom time while students become familiar with the GPS units. Books to help students learn about local plants can also be loaned to teachers who are coming to the park for this program. Teachers may keep the books and gps units until the class comes to visit the park. **Fall - Classroom**



Botany by GPS

6th Grade

In this application of "Finding Your Way in the World" students spend 2-3 hours exploring the Exit Glacier trails finding and photographing plants and other things they notice along the way. Teachers are encouraged to extend this lesson by having students create power point presentations explaining the plants they've found and detailing their impressions of Kenai Fjords National Park. September only, due to limited supplies this program is offered to just 2-4 classes per year. **Fall- Exit Glacier**

Alutiiq Curriculum

Grades 2-5

This unit with multiple activities and lessons will explore the way people used to live on the land that is now Kenai Fjords National Park. Students will examine the way weather and bodies of water influenced where homes were built. They will investigate how houses were constructed, how food was gathered, how clothing was made, and how transportation was managed. **Fall 2010 Classroom and Lowell Point**



Alutiiq Curriculum -People of the Park

Grades 6-8

Through a series of 6 lesson plans students will study the migration exploration, trade and settlement of the Kenai Outer Coast. **Fall 2010 Classroom and Exit Glacier**

Finding Fjords

Grades 6-8

This program is set up to be a pre-visit program for students traveling to Seward to take the Marine Explorer Program with Kenai Fjords Tours. Students will use maps of the world to learn about the places that have fjords. They will draw conclusions from what they learn on the maps and they will begin to explore the reasons for the rich ecosystems found in fjords. **Spring - Classroom**

Climate Change in Alaska and Kenai Fjords

8th grade

A look at our warming world. Alaskan students live in a place and time when climate is changing the world around them.



This program will give an introduction to the cryosphere and to the tools scientists use to measure changes in weather, which translate to changes in climate over time.

This program is designed to be

a series of 3-5 in class lessons. After class lessons students will take their knowledge out into the world to help neighbors see ways they can save energy. Students will also continually monitor their surroundings with a weather station and frost tube on school grounds. **Fall- Classroom**

Tidepool Trekking

K-2nd

This program begins with a 40 minute classroom discussion of tides and tidepool etiquette. This is followed with hands on exploration of the local intertidal ecosystem of Lowell Point State Park. Offered through cooperation with the state park the ranger guides students in a safe – for both creatures and students- and fun encounter with the invertebrates of the intertidal. Due to the fragility of the Lowell Point Ecosystem this program is offered only on a limited basis in the Spring. **Spring/Summer- Classroom and Exit Glacier**

Getting to Know Algae

5th and 6th grade

Students will visit the beach at low tide and look at the Algae that feed, protect and cover the intertidal ecosystem. This is a great lesson for those looking at classification, as the macrophytic saltwater algae still baffle scientists as to their exact classification. Currently some are considered Plants, some Chromists, some Protists. Students will also collect and press several species of algae.

Spring/Summer - Lowell Point

